

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended). Self-adhesive protective sheet for the temporary protection of ~~fresh paint~~ freshly painted surfaces ~~of vehicles such as cars and freshly painted vehicle parts~~, having a backing comprising a thermoplastic film, ~~preferably of polyolefins, and with~~ a self-adhesive layer of butyl rubber, the isoprene content of the butyl rubber being up to 1.8 mole per cent, ~~preferably up to 1.2 mole per cent.~~

Claim 2 (currently amended). Self-adhesive protective sheet according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the butyl rubber is a *starbranched* type and/or contains pendant double bonds.

Claim 3 (currently amended). Self-adhesive protective sheet according to Claim 1 ~~or 2, characterized in that~~ wherein the self-adhesive layer is blended with one or more additives ~~such as~~ selected from the group consisting of tackifiers, plasticizers, organic or inorganic fillers, pigments, light stabilizers, ~~preferably in the form of UV-absorbing sterically hindered amines (HALS), ageing inhibitors, preferably in the form of lactones,~~ primary and secondary antioxidants, crosslinking agents and/or crosslinking promoters.

Claim 4 (currently amended). Self-adhesive protective sheet according to ~~at least one of Claims 1 to 3, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the self-adhesive layer is blended with elastomers ~~such as polyisobutylenes, polyolefin copolymers such as EPM or EPDM, polybutenes, hydrogenated block copolymers of styrene and dienes or acrylate copolymers, the elastomers being used preferably in the range in the amount of~~ from 0 to 20 parts by weight, ~~more preferably below 10 parts by weight,~~ per 100 parts by weight of butyl rubber.

Claim 5 (currently amended). Self-adhesive protective sheet according to ~~at least one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the coatweight of the self-adhesive layer on the backing film is between 3 and 35 g/m², ~~preferably~~

between 8 and 20 g/m².

Claim 6 (currently amended). Self-adhesive protective sheet according to ~~at least one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the backing film is ~~composed~~ comprised of polyolefins, ~~such as selected from the group consisting~~ polyethylene, polypropylene and ~~also~~ mixtures or copolymers thereof.

Claim 7 (currently amended). Self-adhesive protective sheet according to ~~at least one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 6, further comprising ~~polyolefin copolymers are added to the backing film, such as~~ copolymers of ethylene and α -olefins ~~such as 1-butene, 1-hexene, 1-octene~~, ethylene-styrene copolymers, copolymers of ethylene with polar comonomers ~~such as acrylic acid~~, and copolymers of propylene with α -olefins, ~~such as ethylene, 1-butene, 1-hexene and 1-octene~~.

Claim 8 (currently amended). Self-adhesive protective sheet according to ~~at least one of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the thickness of the backing layer is between 20 and 80 μm , optionally including ~~where appropriate~~ an adhesion promoter layer ~~located~~ between the backing layer and the adhesive layer.

Claim 9 (currently amended). Self-adhesive protective sheet according to ~~at least one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the~~ claim 1, wherein said backing layer comprises at least one light stabilizer in an amount of at least 0.15% by weight and/or titanium dioxide, ~~preferably~~ in an amount of from 5 to 15% by weight.

Claim 10 (currently amended). Self-adhesive protective sheet according to ~~at least one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the~~ claim 1, having a UV transmittance ~~of the protective sheet~~ in the wavelength region from 290 to 360 nm is below of less than 1%.

Claim 11 (currently amended) ~~Use of a protective sheet according to at least one of the preceding claims, on~~ A method for protecting freshly painted surfaces of cars or car parts ~~as during~~ assembly protection or transit ~~protection~~ , which comprises covering said surfaces with the protective sheet of claim 1.

Claim 12 (currently amended). ~~Use of a protective sheet according to at least one of the preceding claims~~ **A method** for protecting sensitive paint, metal, plastic or glass surfaces **, which comprises covering said surfaces with the protective sheet of claim 1.**

Claim 13 (new). The self-adhesive protective sheet of claim 1, wherein said isoprene content of said butyl rubber is up to 1.2 mole per cent.

Claim 14 (new). The self-adhesive protective sheet of claim 3, wherein said light stabilizers are in the form of UV-absorbing sterically hindered amines (HALS).

Claim 15 (new). The self-adhesive protective sheet of claim 3, wherein said ageing inhibitors are lactones.

Claim 16 (new). The self-adhesive protective sheet of claim 4, wherein said elastomers are selected from the group consisting of polyisobutylenes, polyolefin copolymers, hydrogenated block copolymers of styrene and dienes or acrylate copolymers.

Claim 17 (new). The self-adhesive protective sheet of claim 4, wherein said amount of elastomers is below 10 parts per 100 parts by weight of butyl rubber.

Claim 18 (new). The self-adhesive protective sheet of claim 4, wherein said coatweight is between 8 and 20 g/m².